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1 HOUSE RESOLUTION

2 WHEREAS, In Illinois, those in higher education and
3 employers alike report an increasing need for secondary and
4 postsecondary graduates with essential and technical
5 employability skills, the skills necessary to succeed in
6 college and career; and

7 WHEREAS, Thoughtfully constructed college and career
8 readiness systems develop essential and technical
9 employability skills that are transferable to numerous careers
10 and allow students to explore career options and find a
11 pathway while still in the K-12 system; and

12 WHEREAS, Access to high-quality systems and programming
13 varies extensively across Illinois; and

14 WHEREAS, Aligning support from State agencies, school
15 districts, postsecondary education providers, employers, and
16 other public and private organizations will lead to the
17 development and implementation of a robust and coordinated
18 college and career readiness system in Illinois; and

19 WHEREAS, The Illinois General Assembly enacted the
20 Postsecondary and Workforce Readiness Act in 2016 to launch
21 four evidence-based strategies to prepare more students for

1 meaningful career opportunities by supporting postsecondary
2 and career planning, promoting and incentivizing
3 competency-based learning programs, reducing remedial
4 education rates, increasing alignment between K-12 and
5 postsecondary education systems, and implementing college and
6 career pathway systems; and

7 WHEREAS, Individuals with a postsecondary credential,
8 whether it is a college degree or technical certificate, are
9 more likely to be employed and on average can earn 62% more
10 than peers with a high school diploma; and

11 WHEREAS, Since the Postsecondary and Workforce Readiness
12 Act's inception, districts statewide have been leading
13 implementation of the Act's strategies to place their students
14 on a pathway to a quality postsecondary career or credential;
15 and

16 WHEREAS, The State has demonstrated a commitment to
17 addressing college and career readiness through the State
18 Perkins Plan, the Higher Education Strategic Plan, the Every
19 Student Succeeds Act State Plan, and the Education and
20 Workforce Equity Act; and

21 WHEREAS, The State's education and workforce agencies have
22 demonstrated a commitment to seeking opportunities to

1 incentivize greater alignment and integration of secondary and
2 postsecondary education to enhance student experiences and
3 readiness; therefore, be it

4 RESOLVED, BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES OF THE ONE
5 HUNDRED SECOND GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF ILLINOIS, that
6 all State education and workforce agencies are urged to
7 celebrate implementation of college and career readiness
8 policies and strategies; and be it further

9 RESOLVED, That the Illinois Student Assistance Commission
10 (ISAC) is urged to publish an annual report documenting and
11 recognizing the leadership of districts in the State that are
12 implementing locally adapted Postsecondary and Career
13 Expectations (PaCE) frameworks on their website; and be it
14 further

15 RESOLVED, That ISAC and the Illinois State Board of
16 Education (ISBE) are urged to encourage all districts serving
17 any grades from 8th through 12th grades to develop and
18 implement their own local PaCE Framework as part of their
19 college and career preparation efforts; and be it further

20 RESOLVED, That ISBE and ISAC are urged to encourage
21 districts to extend their local PaCE frameworks into earlier
22 grades to enhance systemic supports for their students; and be

1 it further

2 RESOLVED, That ISBE is urged to publish an annual report
3 documenting and recognizing the leadership of eligible
4 districts that are implementing College and Career Pathway
5 Endorsements (CCPE) under the Postsecondary and Workforce
6 Readiness Act; and be it further

7 RESOLVED, That ISBE is urged to encourage all districts
8 serving any students from 9th through 12th grades to implement
9 the CCPE in multiple areas in collaboration with postsecondary
10 and workforce partners.